

### **Opening, Call to Order, Roll Call, Approval of Agenda, Approval of Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 1:04 p.m. by President Gray. The following members of the State Board were present: Teri Quinn Gray, President; Nina Lou Bunting, Vice President; Gregory B. Coverdale, Jr., G. Patrick Heffernan, and Dr. Terry M. Whittaker. Secretary of Education Susan S. Bunting was present to serve as the Executive Secretary for the State Board and the Board's Executive Director, Donna Johnson, was also present.

The agenda was approved as amended. A motion was made by Mr. Coverdale and seconded by Mr. Heffernan to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The minutes of the work session of January 19, 2017 were distributed prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Heffernan to approve the minutes of the Board's work session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coverdale and carried by voice vote.

The minutes of the Board's regular meeting of January 19, 2017 were distributed prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Mrs. Bunting to approve the minutes of the Board's regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Whittaker and carried by voice vote.

### **Public Comment**

Eileen Reynolds, an audiologist, provided public comment and a follow up to concerns she expressed to the State Board in November. Ms. Reynolds commented that she feels that deaf students should be taught through a variety of programs and not just the sole use of sign language.

### **Committee Reports and Executive Director's Update**

Board members highlighted their monthly activities. Mr. Coverdale attended the Joint Legislative Oversight and Sunset Committee meeting and also attended the play *The Lion King* at Cab Calloway. Dr. Whittaker also attended the JLOSC as did Mrs. Bunting. Mrs. Bunting also commented on her attendance at the Teacher of the Year Advisory Committee meeting.

Dr. Gray extended a welcome to Secretary Bunting who was presiding over her first State Board of Education meeting.

Ms. Johnson noted the news articles and information posted under the Executive Director's report. She referenced various links and articles posted on ESSA as well as stories of students' success and collaborations currently underway in our schools and districts.

Dr. Gray highlighted her recent meeting with the United Way of Delaware in reference to the Board's literacy campaign and reading by third grade. The Board will be partnering with the United Way. Dr. Gray also attended the ESSA Advisory Committee Meeting.

Ms. Johnson stated that John Marinucci, Executive Director of the Delaware School Boards Association, requested to distribute his monthly report to the State Board. He briefly stated that DSBA is involved with the Special Education Strategic Plan Committee and that the DSBA website is being revised by students at Delcastle High School.

### **Secretary's Report**

Secretary Bunting thanked the Board for the warm welcome. She stated that the Department has met several times with the Joint Finance Committee regarding the Department's base budget. The Department has also been collecting feedback on the State's ESSA Plan.

### **Educators as Catalysts Showcase** Recognition of Principal Leaders

The Board and Secretary Bunting recognized Principal Leaders of the Year. Dr. Mark Holodick, Superintendent in the Brandywine School District, was recognized as Delaware's Superintendent of the Year. Jennifer Nauman, Principal at Shields Elementary in the Cape Henlopen School District, was recognized as Delaware's National Distinguished Principal for NAESP (National Association of Elementary School Principals). Joining Ms. Nauman was District Superintendent Bob Fulton and Board President Andy Lewis.

Dr. Patricia Oliphant, Sussex Academy Charter School, was recognized for the IMPACT Award and Beth Anne Gluck, ASPIRA Academy, was recognized for the IMPACT TOO Award. Tammy Croce, Executive Director of the Delaware Association of School Administrators (DASA) and Kendall Massett, Executive Director of the Delaware Charter Schools also attended the recognition.

### **ESSA Update**

Karen Field Rogers and Amelia Hodges provided a brief update. The ESSA Advisory Committee held its fourth meeting and the Department is awaiting an update from the U.S. Department of Education. The U.S. Department of Education is providing a new template for the plan but states have the option to retain the template they are currently using. The final draft will be distributed on February 28<sup>th</sup> for comment and submission to the U.S. Department of Education is scheduled for April 3, 2017.

### **Standards Implementation and Assessment Development Update**

Michael Watson, April McCrae and Theresa Bennett provided the Board with an update on Delaware Content Standards and how focused professional development learning ensures strong supports for standards implementation. Examples provided included the NextGen Teacher Leader Program, the World Language Curriculum Framework, Mathematics Curriculum Academy and eLearning Delaware. The Board also received an update on enhanced assessment and Smarter interim assessments. Enhanced Smarter Analytics provides teachers with deeper levels of data to assist in student learning and Family Guides provide families with resources and a better

understanding of what students should learn each year. The Board was also presented with information on the SAT Essay Standard Setting which is scheduled for the end of February.

The Board recessed from 2:53 p.m. to 3:02 p.m.

### **Strategic Plan for Educational Opportunities**

Dr. Susan Haberstroh and David Blowman presented the strategic plan for educational opportunities that outlines specific strategies to address identified barriers. The Department and State Board were charged in March 2015 with conducting a needs assessment for the specialized education opportunities and charged the Department with the development of a strategic plan. Public Consulting Group assisted the Department by conducting a survey to gather information on what specialized programs are being offered, the number of seats available and if there is a waiting list. An interactive online map was developed. PCG also assisted in identifying additional information on national best practices, gap analysis, and the development of a strategic roadmap. The five objections include: to align different state laws, regulations, policies, guidelines, and timelines to maximize opportunities for families to participate in specialized educational opportunities; to minimize transportation barriers that prevent families from exercising choice options that meet their children's educational needs; to strengthen data collection efforts to support the accurate and timely determination of educational programmatic needs across the state, to encourage and incentivize traditional districts, vocational technical districts, and charter schools to meet gaps in educational programming that are identified across the state and to increase outreach efforts to marginalized (low income, minority and rural) families to inform them of specialized public educational opportunities and resources to support these options.

### **Renewal of LEAD Delaware**

Shannon Holston provided the Board with information on the LEAD Delaware program renewal application. The program was approved in October of 2015 with annual cohorts of up to 7 aspiring leaders. The Board was asked to make its recommendation to the Secretary on the renewed application. A motion was made by Mrs. Bunting that having reviewed the renewed application of LEAD Delaware Project as required under 14 DE Admin. Code Section 1595.4.3.3 that the State Board recommend approval of the renewed application to the Secretary of Education. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heffernan and carried unanimously by voice vote.

### **Department Regulations**

Ms. Johnson stated that there were no Department regulations for action or discussion before the Board today. There were regulations on the agenda for the Board's information. These regulations require only the approval of the Secretary of Education.

### **Charter Schools**

David Blowman and Denise Stouffer presented the Charter items to the State Board. The highlights of the Charter School Annual Report were presented and focused on academic, organization, and financial performance framework data. The monthly charter school update

highlighted the alternative academic performance framework. Currently Gateway Lab School and Positive Outcomes Charter School are using the alternative academic performance framework.

### **Professional Standards Board**

Chris Kenton, Executive Director of the Professional Standards Board, presented the agenda items for the Professional Standards Board.

#### Regulation 1511 Issuance and Renewal of Continuing License – For Publication

This regulation shall apply to the Issuance and Renewal of a Continuing License, pursuant to 14 Del. C. § 1211 and 14 Del. C. § 1212. It is necessary to review and amend this regulation to comply with Code changes based around Provisional Licensure. A motion was made by Mr. Heffernan to consent to publishing the amended Regulation 1511, Issuance and Renewal of Continuing License as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Bunting and carried unanimously by voice vote.

#### Regulation 1512 Issuance and Renewal of Advance License – For Publication

This regulation shall apply to the Issuance and Renewal of an Advanced License, pursuant to 14 Del. C. § 1213 and 14 Del. C. § 1214. It is necessary to review and amend this regulation to comply with Code changes based around Provisional Licensure. A motion was made by Dr. Whittaker to consent to publishing the amended Regulation 1511, Issuance and Renewal of Continuing License as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heffernan and carried unanimously by voice vote.

#### Regulation 1503 – Educator Mentoring – For Action

This regulation shall apply to comprehensive induction programs, including mentoring and professional development activities required of educators, pursuant to 14 Del. C. Ch. 12. It was necessary to review and amend this regulation to coincide with suggested amendments to Regulation 1510. A motion was made by Mr. Coverdale to consent to amend Regulation 1503 Educator Mentoring as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Whittaker and carried unanimously by voice vote.

#### PRAXIS Exam #5362 – For Action

The Professional Standards Board is seeking the approval of the State Board of Education to approve a Praxis II test for Teachers of English Language Learners that will be required for certification, Regulation 1562 Teacher of English Language Learners. The Department of Education, working in cooperation and collaboration with the Professional Standards Board, has recommended the adoption of this assessment which is designed to measure whether entry-level teachers of English Language Learners have the standards-relevant knowledge, skills, and abilities believed necessary for competent professional practice. The 5362 Praxis II test, a passing score, and an effective date are before the State Board for approval.

The Professional Standards Board has voted to approve a passing score of a 149 on the 5362 Praxis test, with an effective date of July 1, 2017, with a mandatory revisit in February 2018.

A motion was made by Mr. Coverdale to approve PRAXIS Exam #5362 as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Whittaker. At this time counsel for the Department recommended that this item not move forward. Mr. Heffernan then made a motion that the State Board table this action item. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coverdale and carried unanimously by voice vote.

### **Appeals and Reviews – Executive Session**

#### **N.F. – FSMA v. Delaware Interscholastic Athletic Association - 2016-04 For Action**

A motion was made by Mr. Heffernan that the State Board go into Executive Session for the purposes of considering this student appeal and the student's pupil file. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coverdale and carried unanimously by voice vote. The Board took a brief recess at 5:11 p.m. and entered into Executive Session at 5:18 p.m.

Deputy Attorney General Valerie Dunkle provided the State Board with the appropriate information on the appeal.

The Board returned to open session at 5:48 p.m.

A motion was made by Dr. Whittaker to accept the proposed Decision and Order of the Hearing Office and adopt it as the State Board's Decision. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coverdale and carried unanimously by voice vote. The Board signed the appropriate Order.

Mrs. Bunting asked to be excused at this time.

Ms. Dunkle also provided the State Board with an update on the other appeals listed on the agenda. Appeal 2016-05 will be on the Board's agenda for action next month. Appeal 2017-01 has been settled and Appeal 2017-02 has been dismissed.

### **Adjournment**

Dr. Gray reminded the Board members of the date change to the March meeting which is now scheduled for March 23, 2017. There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Coverdale to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heffernan and carried unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted;

Susan S. Bunting, Ed.D.  
Executive Secretary and  
Secretary of Education

**Appeals and Reviews – Executive Session**

**N.F. – FSMA v. Delaware Interscholastic Athletic Association - 2016-04 For Action**

Since school disciplinary matters are confidential the Board entered into Executive Session pursuant to 29 *Del. C.* § 10004(b)(7). The motion was made by Mr. Heffernan, seconded by Mr. Coverdale and carried unanimously. The Board went into Executive Session at 5:18 p.m. The Board discussed the appeal with Ms. Dunkle. The student's parent was present.

Valerie Dunkle, Deputy Attorney General highlighted the appeal item. She also advised the SBE that this executive session was being recorded since there were exceptions and comments filed with the Board after the parties had received the proposed decision of the Hearing Officer. The SBE discussed the matter.

Upon motion, the Board returned to open session at 5:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted;

Susan S. Bunting, Ed.D.  
Executive Secretary and  
Secretary of Education